

McFarland's Service Station Bridgewater
555 Union Avenue West
Bridgewater Township Somerset County
BLOCK: 232 LOT: 36

Community Relations Coordinator: Mark Herzberg (609) 633-1369

SITE DESCRIPTION/RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

This site, also known as McFarland's Pit Stop, operates as a gasoline service station and car wash. The underground fuel storage tanks and associated piping at the site were repaired and upgraded several times between 1975 and 1992. Leaks from this system caused the soil and ground water to become heavily contaminated with gasoline. In the early 1990s, floating gasoline product and dissolved gasoline-related contaminants were found in on-site ground water monitor wells. The ground water contamination migrated off site, contaminating potable wells at nearby residences and businesses. Gasoline vapors were also detected in nearby sewer lines and two neighboring buildings. Between 1996 and 1998, the gas station owner conducted several remedial actions under the supervision of NJDEP's Responsible Party Remediation Element. These actions included installing an extraction system at the gas station to recover gasoline product and vapors from the ground water table and subsurface soil as well as excavating and disposing of three leaking underground storage tanks and 300 cubic yards of gasoline-contaminated soil. Twenty six properties with private drinking water wells that were determined to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds at levels above New Jersey Drinking Water Standards were connected to the public water line and a Point-of-Entry Treatment (POET) system was installed on a well at a commercial facility where no water line was available. In 1998, the site was transferred to NJDEP's Remedial Response Element when private funds were no longer available to complete the cleanup. NJDEP is operating and maintaining the free product and vapor extraction system, monitoring the extent of the ground water plume and evaluating the effectiveness of the remedial actions. NJDEP has established the Currently Known Extent (CKE) of the ground water contamination near the site and is periodically sampling potable wells outside the CKE to monitor ground water quality.